I am concerned that Bell South's petition, if granted, would pave the way for all so called

last mile providers to stop reselling access to their lines at competitive rates or at all.

Because of the protections put in place by the FCC to insure competition, Americans now

have access to faster service at cheaper prices. New markets are opening up for all sorts

of services that would be impossible without near ubiquitous access to the internet.

Voice over IP technology and video phones are just a couple examples of what was impossible before the FCC chose to foster innovation. America is at a critical juncture in

the world. As more and more manufacturing and even programming jobs are shuttled $\ensuremath{\mathsf{N}}$

overseas, it is critical that the American Entrepreneurial spirit is allowed to flourish.